



## **HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE**

### **Statement of Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) Homeland Security Committee**

“Markup of H.R. 1486, H.R. 4433, H.R. 4553, H.R. 4555, H.R. 4559, H.R. 4561, H.R. 4564, H.R. 4567, H.R. 4569, H.R. 4577, H.R. 4578, AND H.R. 4581”

December 13, 2017

Remarks as Prepared

The Committee has convened this morning to markup twelve important pieces of legislation that will help to protect our homeland in several key areas.

On Monday morning, an Islamist terrorist detonated a pipe bomb in a subway station in New York City. While no one was killed, this was just the latest reminder that our homeland is under constant threat and that we must make sure we are doing everything we can to keep the American safe.

Today, we have an opportunity to amend and pass through our Committee, bills that will bring us closer to achieving that goal.

The legislation we'll consider today will help strengthen the capacity of canines to detect explosives at our airports, support non-profits through grants for new security and inspection systems, conduct a review of our challenges across the global aviation system, and enhance CBP's ability to collaborate with federal, state, local, tribal, and international partners to improve border security operations, among other things.

We will also review five bills that heed the recommendations of the Task Force on Denying Terrorist Entry into the United States, led by Congressman Gallagher.

America's enemies are constantly looking for vulnerabilities and areas of weakness to exploit and inflict harm. This holiday season, it is important that we remain vigilant in the face of any and all threats, and remember that we have thousands of patriotic men and women within DHS who work every day to protect our homeland and keep us safe.

Finally, this is the last full Committee markup of the year and I want to thank all of our Members and their staffs for their hard work throughout 2017. We have accomplished a lot this year and I look forward to a very successful 2018.

I now yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. Gallagher.

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